

Roxbury Community College



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GATEWAY GAZETTE

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Courtesy Photo

TALKING SHOP—The panelists at the Media Industry Panel Conference held on Nov. 13 at the Roxbury Community College Media Arts Center auditorium were, from left to right: Jordan Rich, WBZ Radio talk show host; Sarah Ann Shaw, retired reporter, WBZ TV; Tessil Collins, Senior Coordinator Art, Media and Communication, Boston Public Schools; Charlotte Cowan, Studio Manager of BNN Live and an RCC/Broadcast Media Technology (BMT) alum; and Betsy Santana, Junior at Emerson College and an RCC/BMT alum. The moderator was BMT major Brittany Fernandes.

STATE FUNDING FOR RCC CUT 5%

BY KRISTINE YOUNG

Roxbury Community College (RCC) President Terry Gomes announced in October that, among many other state colleges, RCC would have its “fiscal year 2009 allocation reduced by five percent” by the state. This amounts to about \$569,000 of RCC’s original funding.

The announcement followed Gov. Deval Patrick’s revelation of a \$1.4 billion shortfall in state revenues—a result of a suffering economy—that required funding cutbacks at many state agencies and services in addition to higher education.

In an interview with the Gateway Gazette on Dec. 3, RCC Vice President of Administration and

Finance Alane Shanks talked about how the cuts will affect students, teachers and RCC as a whole. Shanks said students “shouldn’t be worried” about the cuts affecting them at this time. Shanks said that since “[financial] aid comes from the federal government, [the reduced funding] wouldn’t affect that. It wouldn’t increase student fees.”

She said the cuts do result in “administration changes.” According to Shanks, there is a “freeze” on full-time hires, and rehires will be decided on a “case by case basis.” Non-union workers, mostly administrators, are being asked to allow non-payment for five days of

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VIDEO CLUB SPONSORS DINNERS, TRIPS AND ACTIVITY TAPING

BY DENEEN MCLEAN

The Roxbury Community College (RCC) Video Club has been very active during the Fall 2008 semester.

The Video Club has co-spon-

sored and videotaped all types of different activities that have benefited the college as well as the surrounding community.

A few of the activities included the annual Halloween party on Oct. 31 and the Thanksgiving dinner

on Nov. 20—co-sponsored by the Student Government Association and held in the RCC cafeteria. The club also videotaped RCC basketball games.

Recently, club members took an educational trip to New York City.

Both the Halloween party and Thanksgiving dinner were decorated wonderfully and drew over one hundred people which made them a great success. The menu for the Halloween party included hot dogs, hamburgers, chips and juices.

Thanksgiving dinner featured turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy as well as other wonderful Thanksgiving goodies.

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STUDENTS SURVEY 250 FELLOW STUDENTS ABOUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

BY NANA BRAHAM

In Spring Semester 2008, Roxbury Community College (RCC) Professor Richard Eells's statistics class conducted a survey on domestic violence implemented by students interviewing other students at RCC.

A survey is collecting information to obtain data to find out about

the subjects in our society. This survey had 250 RCC student participants; 45 percent were male, and 55 percent were female.

The purpose of the survey was to find out how domestic violence relates to RCC students. The group picked a topic and wrote why they thought we should do a survey on the topic we chose.

The next thing was writing sam-

ple questions. As a class we developed questions that were suitable for finding information. We went out and actually surveyed our fellow students. Professor Eells took us through a protocol practice-run on how we should go out and conduct this survey. After we went through

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RESULTS OF THE RCC SURVEY ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Questions and Answers in Percents

	Yes	No	Unsure
Have you ever been a victim of domestic violence?	19	78	3
Do you personally know someone who is a victim or an abuser?	52	48	0
Do you feel safe in your current relationship?	62	6	33
Do you think that men are more reluctant than women to report their abuse?	68	22	10

RCC VOTES

Continued from page 1

work, she said.

According to Shanks, the cuts went into effect when they were announced. The board of higher education and the presidents of community colleges were among those who negotiated the amount and tried to keep the percent down.

Grants from NSTAR are helping pay for new lights and aid the college in saving electricity, she added. The cuts should run through June 30, she

said, although there are more cuts anticipated. They may, in fact, require raised student fees in the fall. But there are efforts being made to ensure that, if that indeed does happen, scholarship funds will be increased, according to Shanks.

Shanks said she wanted to express that she thinks Gov. Patrick has a serious commitment to higher education and that everyone involved is "working very hard to make sure that, in the end, the cuts don't affect student success."

The writer is a journalism student at RCC.

VIDEO CLUB

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The entire community was invited including RCC students, faculty and their families as well as the surrounding community.

The RCC basketball team has been going strong, and the Video Club has been there to catch every moment of it. The Video Club has made it a priority to make sure that all of the basketball games, whether home or away, are being filmed and edited.

Professor Justin Petty, who advises the RCC Video Club, organized the annual trip to New York City on Nov. 7. On this trip there were 15

students who went in a rented van. The students stayed in the Howard Johnson hotel in New Jersey and commuted in and out of New York.

Some of the places the students were able to visit while in the Big Apple were the NBC and CBS television studios where the students were interviewed outside of the studios and seen on the morning news. They also visited the Museum of Television and Radio, which gave the students the ability to roam around freely, research and gain much more insight.

The Video Club was invited to be part of the audience for the daytime show 106 & Park. This gave the students the opportunity to see what happens behind the scenes in

CERTIFICATES FOR STUDENTS ASPIRING FOR HEALTHCARE CAREERS

A dedicated, hard-working group of students will be awarded certificates at a special program on Dec. 18 in the cafeteria at Roxbury Community College (RCC) beginning at 6 p.m.

The students completed "Math and Science Advancement," a program sponsored by the Mayor's Office of Jobs and Community Services with funds from the Neighborhood Jobs Trust.

real time.

"This trip was an exploration trip for the students to be able to look at different careers in the broadcasting field and to also learn how the networking process is done," Petty said in a recent interview.

Some funds for the Video Club come through the college, Petty said, but "much of the funding for this semester's activities came from different bake sales and food sales that the club sponsored."

He went on to say, "With such a small amount of money allocated to the club, we are sometimes unable to videotape or be a part of some activities."

The writer is a journalism student at RCC and a member of the Video Club.

The target audience for the program was Boston residents with a high school diploma or GED who desired a career in healthcare but lacked the math and science skills required to enter a college degree program.

The students took courses including general science, English for healthcare, introduction to algebra, college survival, and introduction to the human body, all taught in the evening division by RCC faculty. To complement their academic program, the students also received critical support services such

DOMESTIC

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the 12 questions we had chosen as a class, two students practiced the actual survey questions on each other. At the end of class, everybody took 10 copies of the survey and, with a class partner, decided on a location to conduct the survey on campus.

The exciting part was spreading out on campus: some students were located near the library, others outside between the Academic Building and Student Center, and some toward the parking lot. Actually conducting the survey was

as individual coaching and career planning, case management, and tutoring.

The graduating students will receive college credit for two courses, and an estimated 90 percent of them will work toward an associate degree at RCC next spring.

The event is free and open to the public. Among the invited guests are Mayor Thomas M. Menino, state Rep. Jeffrey Sánchez and City Councilors Michael P. Ross and Chuck Turner.

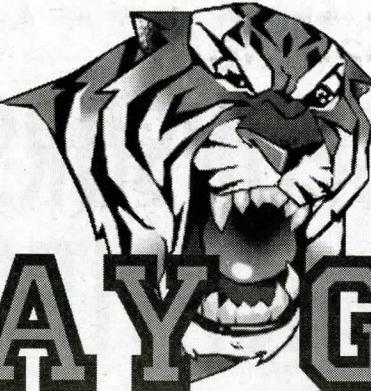
From press materials.

the fun part in our class project. My partner and I waited for every fourth person to come out of the Academic Building to ask them if they could take part in our survey. We took turns asking the questions and observing each other. When the surveys were completed, the class went to a computer lab and gathered our information, which was put into the computer database.

Being a part of the survey process was fun, but also showed that statistics have an important part in gathering information and in dealing with complicated problems in our society.

The writer is a student at RCC.

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Opinion?***

The Gazette also welcomes opinion on any topic of interest to the RCC community. Send your opinion in 500 words or fewer to writingcenter@roxbury.edu. Please provide your name for publication and your telephone number for verification purposes. The Gazette does not accept anonymous opinion pieces. The Gazette reserves the right to edit for length and clarity.



"I Stand Alone" by lesshaah Williams, visual artist and RCC student who is the Staff Illustrator for the Gateway Gazette. Students may e-mail their art work for inclusion in the paper to her at IFWilliams@roxbury.edu.

HONORS PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS ON DEC. 11

STEM SERIES PROVIDES FORUM FOR CRITICAL THINKING

BY DR. ERIC ENTEMANN

The Division of Math, Science and Technology, along with the Math and Science Club, presented the campus community with opportunities for intellectual thought and discussion. In 2008, several distinguished academicians came to campus as part of the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Speaker Series.

Most recently, Dr. J. J. Collins, from Boston University's Center for BioMedical Engineering, spoke about "Engineering Gene Networks: Integrating Synthetic Biology & Systems Biology." In his lecture, Dr. Collins reviewed the future of genetic engineering

through the development of synthetic genetic models. He focused on the use of "white noise" to induce improvements in tactile and aural sensitivity.

Earlier in the semester, Dr. Steven Neimi spoke about laboratory animal husbandry and the ethics in animal care. On Dec. 4, Dr. Donna Jarrell spoke to students about preparing for a career in science.

Next semester, several more speakers are scheduled. On Jan. 29, C. Gallinaro and M. Anderson will come to campus to talk about "Envisioning your Future in Engineering and Science"; on Feb. 26, Dr. Matthew Koss will present a talk entitled "Ted Williams, Big Papi, and the Physics of Fenway's Longest

Homerun"; on March 26, Dr. Mark Klempner will give a lecture on microbiology and infectious disease; and on April 30th Lee Silvestre will speak on "What do you get when you Cross Military Defense with World Hunger?" All lectures will be on Thursdays from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Room 121 of the Academic Building.

Dr. Tala Khadairi, Dean of Math, Science and Technology, has done an outstanding job of developing the STEM Series. A check of campus e-mail will give more specific information about the upcoming presentations and lectures.

The writer is a Professor of Physics and Mathematics at RCC.

RCC ATHLETES EARN POST-SEASON HONORS

Saintloth

Junior College Athletic Association

as members of the RCC soccer

ON DEC. 11

BY JUDY KAHALAS

The Honors Program at Roxbury Community College (RCC) has been quite busy. In November the Honors Program Committee held a recruitment event, and approximately 80 people, both day and evening students, attended. Professor Eric Entemann, the Coordinator of the Honors Program, welcomed guests and introduced them to faculty members and students who participate in the program.

On Dec. 11, at 12:30 in the Faculty Lounge (Room 3-424), students in the Honors Colloquium and other honors courses will present their research to the RCC community. Lunch will be served, and all are welcome to come. This event highlights the academic achievement of the Honors students.

Next semester, the theme of the day Honors Colloquium will be "The Global Food Crisis." The course is

being taught by Prof. Nasreen Latif. The evening Colloquium, taught by Prof. Craig Zaehring, will be on "Human Rights." Honors Composition 1 and 2 as well as several courses that offer an honors component, in which students who qualify will be assigned more challenging academic work with higher expectations, are being offered.

Those who would like to learn more about how they can become a part of the Honors Program or how they can take a single honors course, can stop by the office of Prof. Entemann in the Math and Science Division or e-mail him at eenter@rcc.mass.edu. Students can also stop by the Liberal Arts Division office (Room 3-301) or the Writing Center (Room 3-203) to pick up an Honors Brochure to learn more about how they may be able to participate.

The writer is a member of the Honors Program Committee.

Roxbury Community College



GATEWAY GAZETTE

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Staff and students are invited to send letters to the editor, news tips, ideas for articles and photos and other information for the Gazette to writingcenter@roxbury.edu. All submissions are subject to editing and run on a space available basis. The opinions expressed in these pages do not necessarily reflect those of the newspaper.

Faculty advisors: Judith Kahalas and Sandra Storey

Saintloth named to the NJCAA First Team

BY ERIN HARPER

Roxbury Community College (RCC) sophomore soccer forward Waderthon Saintloth, sophomore midfielder Leveillard Stevens and freshman defenseman Jerome James are the school's latest student athletes to earn praise for their performances on the soccer field. Saintloth was named to the National

Junior College Athletic Association's (NJCAA) Region XXI First Team, while Stevens was named to the Second Team, and James earned an Honorable Mention.

Saintloth, a former Hyde Park High School standout, finished the season with 13 goals and six assists. Stevens, a First-Team selection last season, contributed six assists and four goals.

"This accomplishment is a reflection of the terrific effort put forth by the entire team this season," said RCC Head Coach Gary Lacombe.

Athletic Director Keith McDermott lauded the trio of athletes for their hard work.

"Waderthon, Leveillard and Jerome all had outstanding seasons

as members of the RCC soccer program," said McDermott. "It's terrific that they've been rewarded for their hard work and dedication. I continue to be impressed with our student-athletes."

The teammates helped RCC to a 5-6-1 record in the team's second year at the varsity level. After a 1-5 start, the team ended the season strong, going 4-1-1.

RCC is recognized as the first Junior College inducted into the New England Basketball Hall of Fame in 2003. In 2000, the RCC Men's Basketball Team won the NJCAA Div. III National Championship.

The writer is Sports Information Director of the Reggie Lewis Center and RCC Athletics.

Poet's Corner

WALKAWAY

BY HEMANUEL B. DAMIS

I never thought latched in your world could cause such pain,
The agony endured by your words was enough for my brain to burst forth.
Lies, ambitions, and power were the only things on your mind.

Harmful on the inside and brightness on the outside,
You appeared like the Angel of Light,
You faked everybody in your path,
But ...
When the truth came out, you felt like flaming anyone who crossed your way.
Like a witch, you cast a spell that made everybody walk away
Like the waves of the sea.

The writer is a student at RCC.

OPINION

What should we be thankful for?

BY SHERENE MCKENLEY

It's the season of giving, and I have been left wondering, "What should we be thankful for?" By "we," I mean American culture. The holidays are upon us. Now is the time we all head out, getting brightly colored gifts to put under a tree or place next to menorah. We happily anticipate watching others open the gifts we've given them. In turn, we can barely contain the giddy exhilaration of unwrapping our presents. The moment of truth arrives; how well do your friends and family know you, and did you receive just what you wanted?

However, the real truth is we've forgotten real meaning. We have become slaves to commercialism. It's not the season of giving anymore. It's the season of buying. The excitement of the holidays is now about the excitement of "the buy." It has become about what we can buy, how cheaply we can buy it and how large a bang we can get for the buck. When Black Friday arrives, we are all frothing at the mouth, the business industry and consumers alike. Soon Black Friday may eclipse the importance of Thanksgiving. Turkey Day will be the meaningless precursor to an all out spending spree. As a culture, who we share our time with during the holi-

days has faded into the background. What and how much we can buy are now at the forefront.

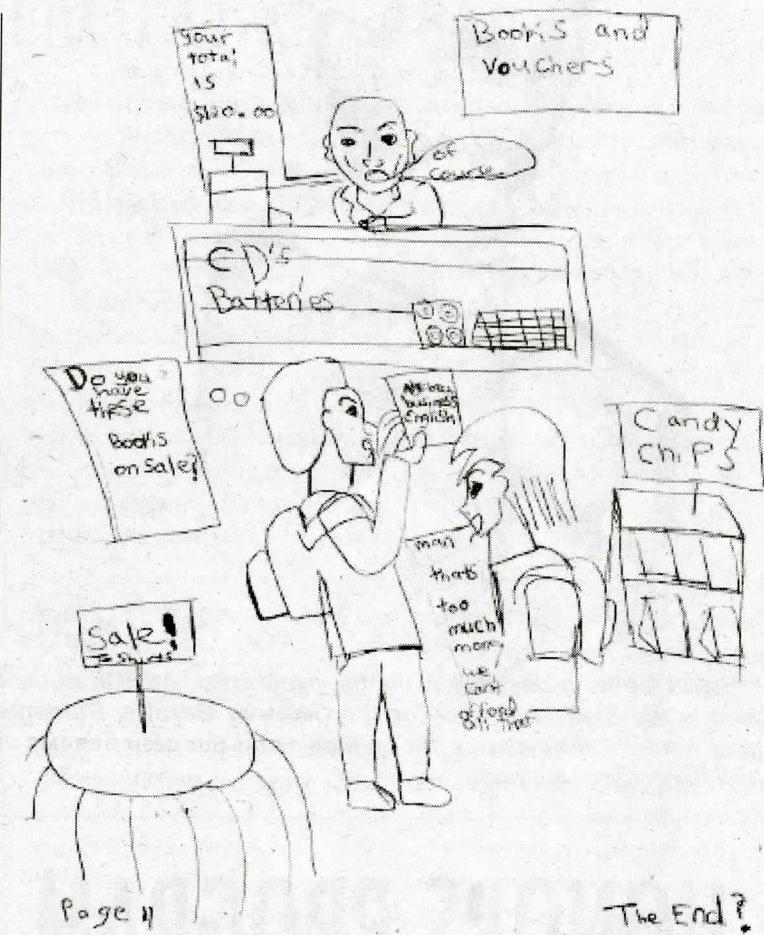
The "Me Generation" is dead. The "Just Me Generation" is now the ruling climate. Like a spoiled, affluent teenager who has never heard the word no and endowed with a fledgling idea of consequence, the "Just Me" are focused on personal gratification. The JMs buy without thought, racking up thousands of dollars in credit card debt. They would be able to mob a Wal-Mart totally unaware a human being was being trampled to death. Shopping is war. The weaker stay to the wayside, or shop on the internet. Everyone's eyes are aglow and faces are creased in broad smiles, but not with thoughts of sharing, connection and community. We are giddy at the sight of 30, 40 and 50 percent off signs. We shiver in anticipation of the bargained buy. We eagerly anticipate the look on the recipient's face at the fiscal importance of their gift. We consciously ask each other, "Does it look like it cost more than \$20?" Or, "Do you think Uncle Bob is worth a \$50 gift?" Our social conscience has been hijacked.

It may seem silly, but as a society we have reached this point because our baser instincts are at play. Educated man would more than likely be mortified at this idea. Shiny

to a caveman. However, like early man's simple obsession with fire, we are obsessed with bright, shiny, loud, gaudy things—modern day fire we are all drawn to. We are thankful for lighted displays in malls, highly overdone in our homes and on trees and menorahs. We are thankful for shiny packages, cars and trinkets. We love bright and gaudy items, especially if they are evidence of how much money was spent to attain them. We are thankful for having people to purchase things for. But, shouldn't we be thankful for having that person in our lives? Shouldn't we realize that giving someone the thought that the year you have spent with them—the moments, from the inane to the drastic—is the precious gift that you've received and, hopefully, you've given?

So, what should we be thankful for? Friendship, family, laughter, sadness, happiness, love, heartbreak, sickness, health, dancing until you're breathless, crying until you're relieved, hugging, kissing, bad days at work, great days at work, bad hair days, awesome hair days, dinner parties, being lonely, but, most of all, the wonderful people who shared all of these things with you.

The writer is clerk, Liberal Arts Division.



Hughes Makes 'Miracle Worker' Shine

BY JUDY KAHALAS

students) and stage set to Watertown

Miracle Worker Shine

BY JUDY KAHALAS

Under the brilliant direction of Marshall Hughes, Director of Performance, Visual and Media Arts, Roxbury Repertory Theater (RTT) presented "The Miracle Worker" from Oct. 16 to Oct. 25. The event, one of the best deals around for those of us seeking a cultural experience (\$5 for RCC students), was another tour-de-force for the Repertory Theater.

The play, written by William Gibson, is the story of Helen Keller, a young deaf and blind woman who is taught how to speak by her beloved tutor, Anne Sullivan, a graduate of Perkins School for the Blind. To commemorate the historical roots of this local connection, Hughes brought the entire crew, cast members (some of whom are Perkins

students) and stage set to Watertown for a special one-day performance.

The significant contribution that the RTT makes to the community was noted by a recent transplant to New England: "We just moved to Rhode Island from New York City," the person said. "One of my main goals for my two children was to continue their participation in the arts... I simply want to offer you and the entire cast and crew of 'The Miracle Worker' my heartfelt congratulations for delivering such an outstanding performance."

RCC students and staff can look forward to Jan. 15-17 and 22-24 at 8 p.m. when Mainstage Productions and the RTT will host "Train Wreck - A Memoir," directed by Michelle Baxter.

The writer is faculty advisor of The Gateway Gazette.

Great experience at BU

BY CHINYERE BETTY IHENETU

From a pool of over 200 applicants, I was among the few selected to participate in the annual summer research programs, with the help of my professors here at Roxbury Community College. My summer research from June to August of 2008 at Boston University was educational, informative and, best of all, fun.

I was fortunate to work in the chemistry department with Dr. John Snyder (one of the best professors) in his lab, and I also worked with their

modern, state-of-the-art equipment. My work was centered on using new natural products derived as scaffolds in a new cancer drug discovery. Surprisingly, my reaction produced a new product that is still being evaluated and tested in the lab. I am grateful to my professors (Harrison Murbi and Krysis Rodriguez) for enrolling me in this program. Indeed, hard work does pay off in the end. Thank you, Roxbury Community College!

The writer is a student at RCC.

'Fluff classes' are really a waste

BY KRISTINE YOUNG

Among all the chaos of college life, a fluff class can be like a small miracle... a saving grace within an otherwise difficult and hectic semester...

A "fluff class" refers to any class that is basically filler. It's for show. You don't have to do any real work to pass. You just skate your way to an easy A. Everyone I know has had at least one. And you have to admit, these classes can really upgrade the ol' GPA.

Sometimes a kid just needs a break from all the hard work. But, somewhere deep down you've got

to feel guilty. Here you spent the whole semester doing nothing and still got by. But you didn't learn anything, so what was the purpose? School shouldn't be about a point system or just trying to get ahead. It's supposed to be about education. Aren't you just wasting your time if you're not getting anything from it?

I once had a class where I did absolutely nothing the whole time. Don't ask me why, I just didn't. I didn't participate. I almost never did homework. I don't know if I ever passed any tests. At the end of the term I received a B. All I had to do was fill a seat... What

a waste. Maybe it's the school's fault for not properly weeding out poorly taught classes. Maybe it's the students' fault for not speaking up and happily accepting effortless grades. Maybe is no one's fault, and the whole thing can be chalked up to unintentional mistakes.

By taking a fluff class you're certainly depriving yourself of something—something a lot of people don't get the chance to have. It's a personal choice, I suppose. I just imagine it's time to stop squandering our opportunities.

The writer is a journalism student at RCC.

America has chosen change and not corruption

BY ASIM KIETA

America has chosen, by way of a landslide, and the choice exhibits a change which is long overdue.

"We" have put into position a man who has the gift of persuasion in his mannerisms and speaks eloquently with a conviction that has the masses ready to follow wherever he may lead. I can only

hope that our choice is one for the greater good of all mankind. Only time will tell.

The whole world helped nominate our new symbol. At the end of the day, will he only be president of the United States? Or will he be something even greater – someone who unites the world by reducing poverty, eliminating war and spreading tolerance?

How unfortunate to know

that in the most powerful nation on the planet—where freedom is more than just a word—there is still such a great degree of corruption. Let's hope that our newly elected president will never accept the corruption that is more than apparent in our government. Will our new choice, who represents change, challenge that corruption?

The writer is a student at RCC.